



Kentucky Heritage Land Conservation Fund Board

Annual Report
July 1, 2004 - June 30, 2005



KENTUCKY HERITAGE LAND CONSERVATION FUND BOARD

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The Graham Tract will extend the southern boundary of Natural Bridge State Resort Park.

MISSION

The Kentucky Heritage Land Conservation Fund (KHLCF) was established by the 1994 Kentucky Legislature and is administered by a 12-member board. The board's mission is to award funding for the purchase and preservation of selected natural areas in the Commonwealth; to protect rare and endangered species and migratory birds; to save threatened areas of natural importance, and to provide natural areas for public use, outdoor recreation and education.

The fund is supported by the state portion of the unmined minerals tax, environmental fines, the \$10 additional fee to purchase a Kentucky nature license plate and interest on the fund's assets.

The board can award grants to acquire and protect areas of natural significance to local governments, state colleges and universities and specified state agencies.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Applicants for KHLCF grants are required to provide documentation that explains how a proposed acquisition will meet one or more of these priorities:

1. Natural areas that possess unique features such as a habitat for rare and endangered species;
2. Areas important to migratory birds;
3. Areas that perform important natural functions that are subject to alteration or loss; and
4. Areas to be preserved in their natural state for public use, outdoor recreation and education.

Applications must also include: (1) an enumeration of costs, (2) a budget that indicates how at least 10 percent of acquisition costs will be spent for management and (3) a preliminary resource management plan for the project. During fiscal year 2005, the Kentucky Heritage Land Conservation Fund Board held four regularly scheduled quarterly meetings to consider applications for funding.

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

This has been another eventful year for the Kentucky Heritage Land Conservation Fund Board (KHLCFB). The board reviewed numerous applications and approved 12 projects in 12 counties in fiscal 2005. Since the first awards were made in October 1995, the board has approved 137 projects in 59 counties.

This year, local government projects were approved in Fayette, Fleming, Jefferson, and Livingston counties; state agency projects were approved in Christian, Franklin, Henderson, Lincoln, Powell, Pulaski, Robertson, and Wolfe counties.

Almost 1,100 acres of natural areas and wildlife habitat were purchased or protected with Heritage Land funds during fiscal 2005. Purchases were made on 14 projects, including additional acreage at both Blanton Forest and the Green River State Forest. A complete list of properties purchased or

protected in FY 2005 is at the end of this summary.

More than 23,000 acres involving 89 projects have been purchased since October 1995. Costs of these projects (acquisition, administration and management) total \$28 million. Sizes of projects are as follows:

> 1,000 acres	5 projects
500 - 999 acres	5 projects
100 - 499 acres	36 projects
10 - 99 acres	27 projects
< 10 acres	5 projects

This year, the board held two of its quarterly meetings outside Frankfort so members could visit purchased properties. In October 2003, following a site visit to Griffith Woods in Harrison County, the board met at the Kentucky Horse Park. In April 2005, the board visited several properties near and adjacent to Blue Licks Battlefield State Resort Park. In October 2004, the board visited Livingston County Wildlife Management Area and Nature Preserve and the proposed Reynolds Metal property.

Sales of all three nature license plates exceeded \$1 million for the second straight year. During fiscal year 2005, the board began discussions with marketing consultant New!West to best determine how the nature license plates could be marketed to improve sales and to educate the general public about the benefits of purchasing a nature license plate. A test marketing campaign began in July 2005.

The board is very concerned with its continuing and worsening lack of necessary funding. More and more significant projects either cannot be funded or must be funded on a partial basis over an extended period of time, which makes the program dependent on the willingness of property owners to be patient while funds slowly accumulate. A project requiring immediate purchase is subject to being sold for development and lost forever from Kentucky's natural landscape. For example, during this fiscal year, two projects, approximately \$1 million each, could only be funded at a fraction of what was needed.

In April, the Kentucky chapter of The Kentucky Nature Conservancy devoted an entire issue of its biannual magazine, *Conserving Kentucky*, to projects funded by the KHLCFB. While the success of the fund cannot be questioned, there is still much that can be done to protect important natural areas and wildlife habitat across the Commonwealth. Kentucky loses over 130 acres every day to development. As the board prepares to celebrate its 10th anniversary in October 2005, much pride is taken in the accomplishments of the last decade. However, much work is yet to be done and the board hopes additional funding sources can be identified and used to substantially increase the amount of land that can be purchased and perpetually protected.



Graham tract, Wolfe County



Indian Run, located on the Abnee Tract

Fiscal Year 2005 Purchases

PROJECT	AGENCY	COUNTY	ACRES
Carpenter Cave (donated conservation easement)	KSNPC	Allen	14.3
Fort Heiman	Calloway County Fiscal Court	Calloway	164.0
Lower Howards Creek Expansion	Clark County Fiscal Court	Clark	47.0
Old Bison Trace	KSNPC	Fleming	129.0
Feindel Tract (donated conservation easement)	KSNPC	Franklin	59.0
Springhouse Barrens (conservation easement)	KSNPC	Hardin	54.0
Jim Scudder Addition #1	KSNPC	Hardin	109.0
Blanton Forest - Parsons Tract	KSNPC	Harlan	6.0
Hidden River Cave	City of Horse Cave	Hart	0.1
Green River State Forest - Minerals Tract	Forestry	Henderson	272.0
Gatton Lewis - Wilkening Tract	KSNPC/Wild Rivers	Letcher	8.3
Hymes Knob- Polley Tract	KSNPC	Lewis	48.1
Lair Tract at William Whitley Historic Shrine	Parks	Lincoln	30.0
Bruce Smith Tract	Wild Rivers	Wolfe	139.8
Total Acreage			1080.6

APPROVED PROJECTS

(July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005)

Competitive Grants

LEXINGTON/FAYETTE URBAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Raven Run Addition, Fayette County, 263 acres

Due to lack of sufficient funds, the board was only able to award a small portion of the amount requested. This project would add 263 acres to Raven Run Nature Sanctuary in southeastern Fayette County. The project area includes a variety of ecologically distinct habitats, including a portion of the Kentucky River Palisades. In addition, the tract borders Raven Run Creek and is part of the Raven Run watershed. Primary use of the project will be environmental education and passive outdoor recreation.

FLEMING COUNTY FISCAL COURT

Park Lake Mountain Nature Preserve, Fleming County, 500 acres

This is a wooded area that will be acquired with the goals of increasing public awareness of protected areas, providing additional resting and feeding areas for migrating and wintering waterfowl, and expanding outdoor recreational opportunities for visitors.

LOUISVILLE METRO GOVERNMENT

Jefferson Memorial Expansion, Jefferson and Bullitt Counties, 450 acres

This project consists of three different tracts of land, one of which is partially in Bullitt County. One of the three tracts is primarily wooded slopes and ridges along with Knob Creek, several of its tributaries and associated floodplain that is in both woodland and meadow. Purchase of this tract would fill a significant gap by connecting two large sections of the forest. The other two parcels, adjacent to one another, would also connect two large sections of the forest. These two tracts consist primarily of steeply sloped woodland, with some floodplain and meadow.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY FISCAL COURT

Reynolds Metal Tract, Livingston County, 869 acres

This is a large tract adjacent to The Nature Conservancy's Mantle Rock Preserve. The tract contains an excellent example of mature oak-hickory forest of a quality that is rarely found in Kentucky. The goal of this project is to protect the areas that are ecologically significant and to make available a large area for outdoor recreation and environmental education.



Reynolds Metal property, Livingston County

State Agency Grants

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE RESOURCES

The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources did not request funding for new projects this year, although additional funding was granted for a pre-existing project.

DIVISION OF FORESTRY

The Division of Forestry did not request funding for new projects this year, although additional funding was granted for a pre-existing project.

KENTUCKY STATE NATURE PRESERVES COMMISSION

Bob Overton Cave, Christian County, 365 acres

The project area consists primarily of second growth forest, with some areas of more mature timber. The cave itself is a vertical entrance shaft and constitutes a summer colony site for federally endangered Gray myotis and state endangered Southeastern myotis. In addition, it is a significant hibernaculum for federally endangered Indiana bats.

Braun's Rockcress Conservation Easements, Franklin County, 100 acres

Three sites, located north of Frankfort, consist of steep wooded ravines and bluffs along the Kentucky River and its tributaries. Each site contains high quality occurrences of Braun's rockcress, which is federally listed as endangered. These sites also contain Globe bladderpod, which is a state-listed endangered plant. Conservation easements over the areas that contain the plants will allow the Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission to actively manage the sites to benefit both rare plants.



Braun's rockcress, Franklin County

Pritchett Addition to Audubon State Park, Henderson County, 13 acres

See description under Kentucky Department of Parks

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

Pritchett Addition to Audubon State Park, Henderson County, 13 acres

This is a joint project with the Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission. This property, having immediate access to Highway 41, is prime for commercial development. Much of the property is in a natural state and extends to within 300 feet of the John James Audubon State Park Museum and Nature Center, and within three feet of dedicated park nature preserve and trails. Purchase of this property will ensure the aesthetics of that area and provide much needed buffer for the park.

Lair Addition to William Whitley State Historic Site, Lincoln County, 30 acres

The primary goals of this purchase are to prohibit undesirable residential development immediately adjacent to the site, link with existing public property managed by the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources in order to provide additional interpretive and resource-based recreational opportunities for park visitors, and to provide additional educational activities and programs for the school groups which visit the park on an annual basis.

Graham Addition to Natural Bridge State Resort Park, Wolfe County, 112 acres

This property is best described as land typical of the Red River Gorge area. It consists of dry ridgetops with a few sandstone cliff outcroppings, including several very small rock shelters. It lies along the Middle Fork of the Red River. Acquisition of the Graham property would put more of this watershed in public ownership, joining the substantial amount already owned by Kentucky State Parks and the U.S. Forest Service.

Abnee Tract, Robertson County, 75 acres

This property is located on the northern boundary of Blue Licks Battlefield State Resort Park. The Abnee tract separates the main body of the park from another tract acquired by the park within the last 18 months. Acquisition would connect the two large tracts, making one large contiguous tract. The property has approximately 600 feet of river frontage, making it important to migratory birds.

*DIVISION OF WATER — WILD RIVERS PROGRAM***Meek Tract, Pulaski County, 900 acres**

This tract is located within and adjacent to the state-designated Rockcastle River Wild River Corridor. It also includes almost one mile of Beech Creek, which is a tributary of the Rockcastle Wild River. The tract is almost surrounded by the Daniel Boone National Forest and is located within several miles of Mount Victory Seeps State Nature Preserve. No inventory work has been performed on the property, but the potential for habitat for several rare plants exists.

James Lacy Tract, Wolfe County, 77 acres

This tract is located within and adjacent to the state-designated Red River Wild River Corridor. Most of the tract possesses relatively intact riparian forest and, as much of the acquisition is located below steep cliff lines, it is predominantly inaccessible. However, the upstream section of this tract does provide access to the river via an existing rough road, an extremely valuable commodity in this area. Any development of this or adjacent areas is very likely to degrade the river area.

FISCAL YEAR 2005 AWARDS

GRANTS	COUNTY	AWARD*
Competitive Grants		
Lexington/Fayette Urban County Government - Raven Run Addition	Fayette	
Fleming County Fiscal Court - Park Lake Mountain Nature Preserve	Fleming	
Nature Preserves/Fish & Wildlife - Stone Mountain (additional funding)	Harlan	
Western Kentucky University - East Mammoth Cave (additional funding)	Hart	
Louisville Metro Government - Jefferson Memorial Forest Expansion	Jefferson	
Livingston County Fiscal Court - Reynolds Metal	Livingston	
Total Competitive		\$1,850,700
State Agency Grants		
Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources		
Knobs State Forest (additional funding)	Bullitt	\$283,000
Nature Preserves Commission		
Bob Overton Cave	Christian	
Braun's Rockcress Conservation Easements	Franklin	
Pritchett Addition to Audubon State Park	Henderson	
Total Nature Preserves Commission		\$463,250
Division of Forestry		
Knobs State Forest (additional funding)	Bullitt	\$1,247,000
Department of Parks		
Pine Mountai Trail (additional funding)	Bell, Harlan, Letcher, Pike	
Knobs State Forest (additional funding)	Bullitt	
Pritchett Addition to Audubon State Park	Henderson	
Lair Addition to William Whitley State Historic Site	Lincoln	
Graham Addition to Natural Bridge State Resort Park	Powell	
Abnee Tract	Robertson	
Total Department of Parks		\$1,899,500
Division of Water - Wild Rivers Program		
Meek Tract	Pulaski	
James Lacy Tract	Wolfe	
Total Division of Water - Wild Rivers Program		\$1,238,500
Total State Agency		\$5,131,250
GRAND TOTAL		\$6,981,950

Figures are rounded to the nearest dollar.

*Due to confidentiality of property negotiations, individual amounts approved are not disclosed.

STATUS OF APPROVED PROJECTS

(July 1, 1995 - June 30, 2005)

Agency Abbreviations:	Status Codes:
KSNPC - Ky. State Nature Preserves Commission	# - number of acres purchased
F&W - Department of Fish & Wildlife Resources	A - Active
CFC - County Fiscal Court	W - Withdrawn
UCG - Urban County Government	F - Acquisition finalized; management, if applicable, in progress
Parks - Ky. Department of Parks	R - Final Resource Management Plan approved
Forestry - Ky. Division of Forestry	
Wild Rivers - Ky. Division of Water Wild Rivers Program	

PROJECT NAME	APPLICANT	COUNTY	STATUS
Legacy State Forest	F&W, Forestry, Parks	Adair, Taylor	W
Carpenter Cave (conservation easement)	KSNPC	Allen	14,F
Axe Lake Swamp Addition	KSNPC	Ballard	312, R
Barlow Bottoms/Stallings Tract	F&W	Ballard	147, F
Boatwright WMA Addition	F&W	Ballard	962,F
Brigadoon State Nature Preserve Addition 1 & 2	KSNPC	Barren	89,R
Boone Wildlife & Recreational Area	F&W, Forestry	Bell	3650,A
Golden Acquisition	Forestry	Bell	288,F
Gladys Jackson Acquisition	Forestry	Bell	W
Gunpowder Creek	Boone CFC	Boone	W
Breckinridge Co. Wildlife Education Park	Breckinridge CFC	Breckinridge	25,R
Yellowbank WMA Inholding	F&W	Breckinridge	220,F
Knobs State Forest	Forestry, Parks, F&W	Bullitt	A
Apple Valley Glades (conservation easement)	KSNPC	Bullitt	23,F
Dawson Springs Seep Swamp	KSNPC	Caldwell	W
Albert Lisanby Property	Forestry	Caldwell	5,R
Copeland Bluff	Forestry	Caldwell	46,R
Garland Jones Acquisition	Forestry	Caldwell	15,F
Fort Heiman	Calloway CFC	Calloway	164,A
Parkside Development Tract	Parks	Carroll	W
Charlie Bryant Property	Parks	Carter	108,R
Olive Hill Preservation Project	City of Olive Hill	Carter	215,R
Russell Property	Forestry	Christian	135,R
Bob Overton Cave	KSNPC	Christian	A
Lower Howard's Creek & Addition	Clark CFC	Clark	291,1R
Clark Co. Civil War Earthenworks Fortification	Clark CFC	Clark	25,R
Greenbelt Park/Horse Fork Trail	City of Owensboro	Daviess	25,R
Yellow Creek Park	Daviess CFC	Daviess	1,R
Park Mammoth Bat Cave	F&W	Edmonson/Barren	A
Laurel Creek Gorge	Elliott CFC	Elliott	W
Raven Run Addition #1 and #2	Lexington-Fayette UCG	Fayette	97,1R,1A
Park Lake Mountain Nature Preserve	Fleming CFC	Fleming	A
Pete McNeil Property	Forestry	Fleming	W
Marietta Huston Property	F&W	Fleming	811,F
Old Bison Trace	KSNPC	Fleming, Robertson	129,F
Strohmeier's Hill	KSNPC	Franklin	W
Cove Spring Nature Preserve	City of Frankfort	Franklin	75,A

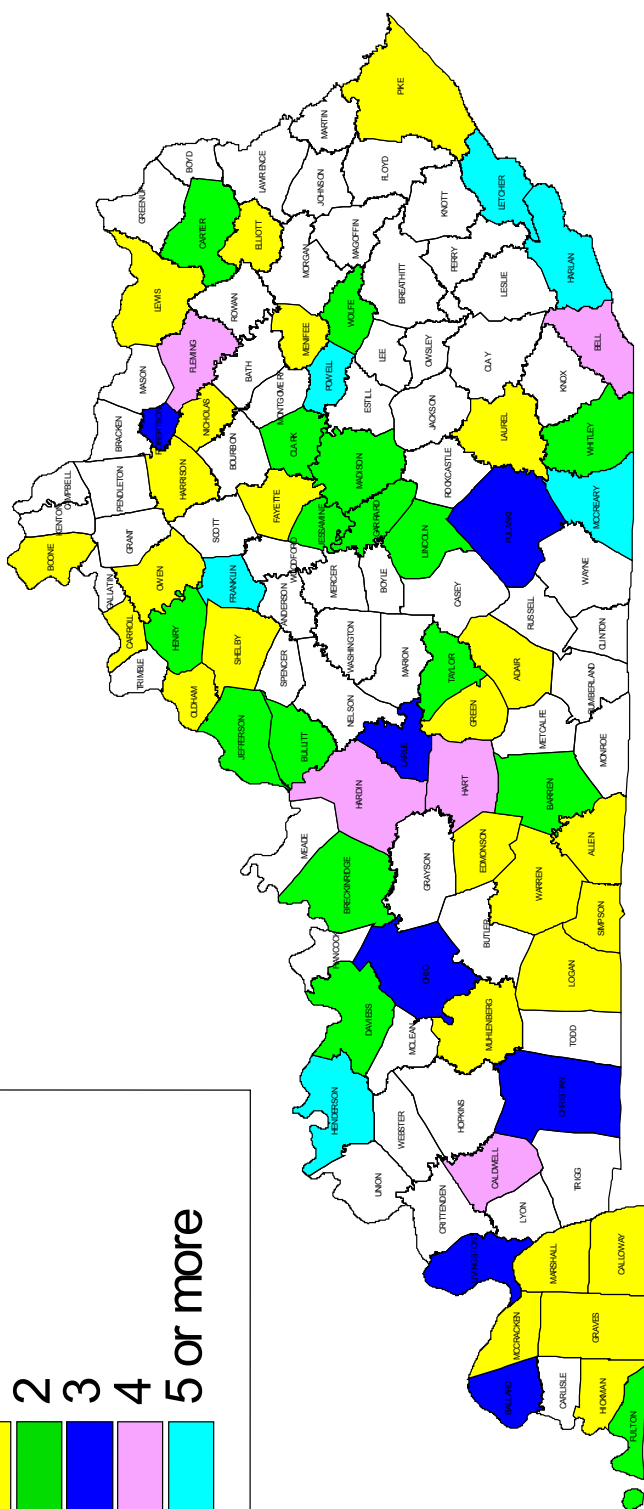
STATUS OF APPROVED PROJECTS (Continued)

River Cliffs (donated conservation easement)	KSNPC	Franklin	112,F
Julian Savanna (donated conservation easement)	KSNPC	Franklin	42,F
Braun's Rockcress Conservation Easements	KSNPC	Franklin	A
Feindel Tract (donated conservation easement)	KSNPC	Franklin	15,F
Emerson-Letourneau Woods	F&W	Fulton	872,F
Obion Creek Addition	F&W	Fulton, Hickman	A
Ky. River Palisades - White Oak Creek	Ky. River Authority	Garrard	447,R
White Oak Creek Addition #3	KNSPC	Garrard	5,R
Terrapin Creek	KSNPC	Graves	61,R,A
Wyatt Jeffries Woods	Green CFC	Green	57,F
Eastview Barrens and Addition	KSNPC	Hardin	119,R,1W
Buffalo Creek Woodlands	City of Elizabethtown	Hardin	W
Springhouse Barrens (conservation easement)	KSNPC	Hardin	54,F
Jim Scudder SNP Addition #1	KSNPC	Hardin	109,F
Hi Lewis Pine Barrens (private dedication of 138 acres)	KSNPC	Harlan	302,R,F
Blanton Forest	KSNPC	Harlan	1205,R,A
Greene Property & Addition	Forestry	Harlan	324,R
Stone Mountain Recreation Area	Harlan CFC	Harlan	1025,F
Medlin Tract	Wild Rivers	Harlan	11,R
Cupp Acquisition	Forestry	Harlan	396,F
Music Mountain	Harlan CFC	Harlan	W
Polly Howard Tract	Wild Rivers	Harlan	11,F
Black Mountain Appraisal	EKU et. al	Harlan	F
Croushorn Tracts	Wild Rivers	Harlan	1580,F
Christian Tract	Parks	Harlan	A
Cumberland Group Property	Parks	Harlan	A
Pine Mountain Settlement School (private dedication)	KNSPC	Harlan	348,F
Bluegrass Restoration Project	University of Kentucky	Harrison	391,F
Hidden River Cave Project	City of Horse Cave	Hart	9,A
Upper Green River Biological Preserve	Western Ky. University	Hart	670,F
East Mammoth Cave Educational Reserve	Western Ky. University	Hart	A
Goebel Tract	Wild Rivers	Hart	A
Lambert/Holy Name Tracts	Parks	Henderson	W
Pritchett Property	Parks	Henderson	A
Bush Acquisition	Forestry	Henderson	138,R
Green River State Forest Addition	Forestry	Henderson	272,A
Hardin Bottoms Addition - Ky. River WMA	F&W	Henry	227,F
Crowe Property	Kentucky State Univ.	Henry	306,F
Three Ponds	KSNPC	Hickman	217,R
Jefferson Co. Memorial Forest	Louisville Metro Gov't	Jefferson	282,3R,1F,1W, 1A
Tyler-Schooling Property	Louisville Metro Gov't	Jefferson	215,R
Camp Nelson Civil War Site Preservation	Jessamine CFC	Jessamine	59,R
Jessamine Creek Preservation	Jessamine CFC	Jessamine	A
Lincoln's Boyhood Home	Larue CFC	Larue	225,F
Larue County Environmental Center	Larue CFC	Larue	191,F
Thompson Creek Glade SNP Addition #1	KSNPC	Larue	91,F
Reynolds Tract	Wild Rivers	Laurel	A
Bad Branch State Nature Preserve Addition	KSNPC	Letcher	853,1W,R
Gatton/Lewis Additions (Bad Branch SNP)	KSNPC, Wild Rivers	Letcher	8,F
Tudor/Wright Addition (Bad Branch SNP)	KSNPC	Letcher	A

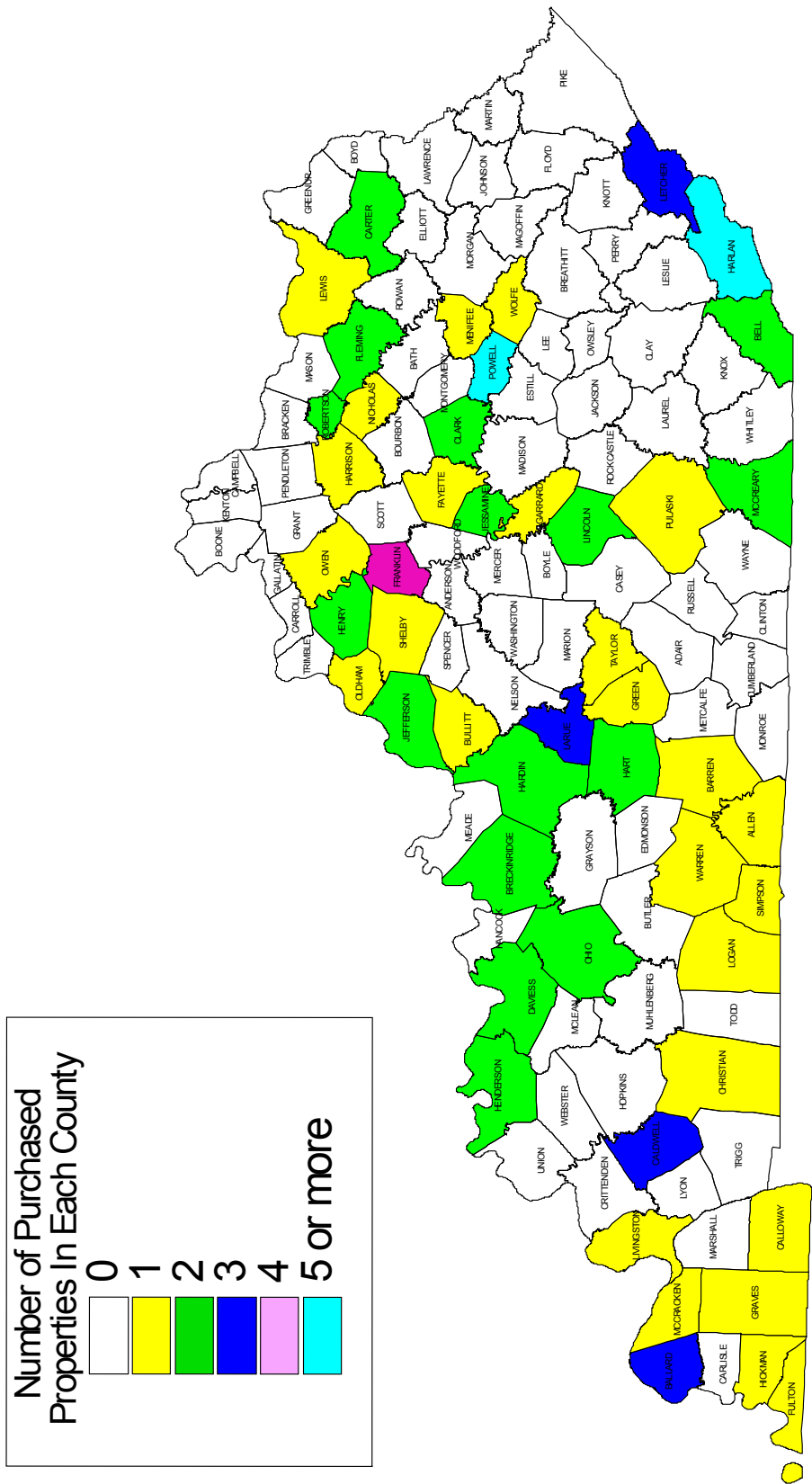
STATUS OF APPROVED PROJECTS (Continued)

Lilley Cornett Woods Mineral Estate	Eastern Ky. University	Letcher	R
Hubbard Tract	Wild Rivers	Letcher	W
Wilder Tract	Parks	Letcher	W
Bad Branch North Face Addition	KSNPC	Letcher	W
Hymes Knob	KSNPC	Lewis	399,R,A
Lincoln County Barrens SNP	KSNPC	Lincoln	260,F
Lair Addition	Parks	Lincoln	30,F
Head Vivian Tract	Livingston CFC	Livingston	563,F
Perkins Tract	Livingston CFC	Livingston	462,F
Reynolds Metal Tract	Livingston CFC	Livingston	A
Baker Natural Area	Logan CFC	Logan	66,F
Sarah Williams Property	Parks	Madison	W
Central Kentucky WMA	F&W	Madison	W
Harper Property	Parks	Marshall	W
Perkins Creek Nature Preserve	City of Paducah	McCracken	80,R
Rick Stephens Property	Parks, Wild Rivers	McCreary	119,R
Tucker Project	Wild Rivers	McCreary	23,R
Garland Tract	Wild Rivers	McCreary	W
Joe Jackson Rock Creek	Wild Rivers	McCreary	W
Joe Jackson Little South Fork	Wild Rivers	McCreary	A
Virgil Gibson Conservation Easement	Wild Rivers	McCreary	W
Angel Tract	Wild Rivers	McCreary	W
Broke Leg Falls	Menifee CFC	Menifee	15,F
Peabody WMA survey	F&W	Muhlenberg, Ohio	A
Smoot/Hunter Tract	Parks, KSNPC	Nicholas, Robertson	78,R
Highview Hill, Expansion 1 & 2	Ohio CFC	Ohio	257,R
Ohio County Park Nature Area	Ohio CFC	Ohio	115,R
Conservation Park	Oldham CFC	Oldham	228,F
Gilbert Tract - Ky. River WMA	F&W	Owen	307,F
Pine Mountain Trail State Park	Parks	Pike, etc.	A
Lloyd Pace Property	Parks	Powell	W
Thomas Fuller Property	Parks	Powell	153,R
Nancy Reed Property	Parks	Powell	67,R
Pilot Knob Project	KSNPC	Powell	340,R
Edwards Property	Parks	Powell	41,R
Henson Property	Parks	Powell	72,F
Pilot Knob Addition	Powell CFC	Powell	93,F
Graham Addition	Parks	Powell	A
Mount Victory Seeps	KSNPC	Pulaski	150,R,A
Meek Tract	Wild Rivers	Pulaski	A
Newsome Tract	Parks	Robertson	338,R
Abnee Tract	Parks	Robertson	A
Clear Creek Park Greenway	Shelby CFC	Shelby	27,R
Flat Rock Glade	KSNPC	Simpson	30,R
Tebbs Bend Nature & Recreation Area	Taylor CFC	Taylor	172,F
Lost River Cave	Warren CFC	Warren	2,R
Curt Davis Property	Parks, Wild Rivers	Whitley	W
Earl Timmons Property	Wild Rivers	Whitley	W
Bruce Smith Tract	Wild Rivers	Wolfe	A
James Lacy Tract	Wild Rivers	Wolfe	A

As of June 30, 2005



KENTUCKY HERITAGE LAND CONSERVATION FUND
Purchased as of June 30, 2005



Fiscal Year 2005 Financial Report

Current Year Receipts

License Plate Sales	\$114,840
Environmental Fines	\$1,299,419
Unmined Minerals Tax	\$1,622,761
Interest Income	\$398,700
Other Receipts	\$100
Total Current Fiscal Year Receipts	\$3,435,820

Current Year Expenditures

Land Acquisition and Management	\$1,978,046
Environmental Education Council**	\$150,000
Division of Fossil Fuels and Utility Services#	\$400,000
Transfer for Administrative Costs	\$116,000
Total Current Fiscal Year Expenditures	\$2,644,046

**In accordance with KRS224.10-250, \$150,000 was transferred to the Kentucky Environmental Education Council, which is to provide leadership and planning for environmental education in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

#In accordance with KRS 132.020 Section 9, \$400,000 was transferred to the Kentucky Division of Fossil Fuels and Utility Services (formerly the Kentucky Coal Council) for the purpose of public education of coal-related issues.

Cumulative Receipts

Receipts by Source	FY95-FY02	FY03	FY04	FY05	TOTAL
License Plates	3,187,212	815,218	1,187,180	1,114,840	6,304,450
Environmental Fines	12,794,958	1,819,194	2,777,480	1,299,419	18,691,051
Unmined Minerals Tax	15,159,734	1,395,632	1,149,481	1,622,761	19,327,608
Interest	3,993,152	566,640	359,082	398,700	5,317,574
Other Receipts	4,229		405	100	4,734
TOTAL	35,139,285	4,596,684	5,473,628	4,435,820	49,645,417

Environmental Education

Kentucky Environmental Education Council (KEEC) *(report provided by Jane Wilson Eller)*

Each year, the KEEC receives \$150,000 from environmental fines and penalties. The money is used for environmental education programs in the Commonwealth.

Environmental education is often referred to as “tree hugging.” This evokes images of people who approach environmental issues with their hearts but not necessarily with their brains. In fact, there are few endeavors more complex or intellectually challenging than trying to understand the interrelationships between human and natural systems. Added to that challenge is the fact that environmental literacy includes an understanding of how one can take personal and civic action to improve the environment.

Faced with this challenge and supported by those who wrote both the 1999 and 2004 environmental education master plans, the KEEC made an early decision to forgo the usual environmental education activities that include such things as occasional teacher workshops or earth day events. Instead the KEEC concentrates on improving the knowledge and skills of all those who provide environmental education to our young people and to our adult citizens. Our goal is to help them provide environmental education that is instructionally sound, that is delivered equitably and that is balanced and factual in its content.

As of last year, we had several fledgling programs in place to accomplish this goal. This year, with the exception of the Green and Healthy Schools Program (described later), we have chosen not to initiate new programs but rather to continue to build those in place. This report describes progress on those programs.

•**Certification for nonformal educators and the endorsement for K-12 teachers** - These programs prepare educators in both the nonformal sector (e.g. from natural resources agencies, science centers, the zoo, etc.) as well as K-12 teachers to more effectively teach about the environment. Both programs are breaking new ground nationally and are based on national standards. The certification program consists of four two-day workshops and one independent study. It requires four major assessments, one of which is a set of 15 short essays that assess the independent study. The endorsement, which is based on the same standards as the certification program, consists of three college courses. (The certification courses can also be taken for college credit). Currently four universities are offering the endorsement; two more are in the process of developing the courses. An endorsement is a specialty area added to a teacher’s certificate. For example there are endorsements in gifted education, reading and, now, in environmental education.

•**The Kentucky University Partnership for Environmental Education (KUPEE)** - For the past two years, the KEEC has channeled money from the state’s Pride fund (created by HB 174) to the eight state universities. With this support, and other monies KUPEE has been granted, the universities become partners in helping to make teachers and other future leaders more environmentally literate.

•**The Green and Healthy Schools Project** - Late this fall, the Kentucky Department of Education and KEEC will launch the Kentucky Green and Healthy Schools Project. This project will provide a structure in which students inventory their own schools to assess their environmental sustainability and their relationship to the health of students and adults who use them. These student-conducted inventories will also help students integrate their learning and apply new knowledge to real world settings.

The inventories, coupled with the improvement projects, which are also part of the program, will help students use the higher-level thinking skills that are the basis of KERA goals. In addition, the program includes opportunities for school districts building new schools to incorporate sustainable and healthy building practices.

•**Commonwealth Water Education Project** - Also, late this fall, a coalition of over 20 agencies and organizations will launch a statewide water education project for adults. The project will include a KET-produced documentary on water issues specific to Kentucky; a series of workshops for local officials; a series of PSAs with a logo and slogan specifically created for the project; a one-stop Web site for water information (including an electronic field trip to a watershed); and a set of teacher workshops organized by watershed. KEEC helped organize the project and will serve as evaluators.

•**A Survey of Environmental Knowledge, Attitudes and Behaviors** - One of KEEC's mandates is to report to the General Assembly on the environmental literacy of Kentuckians. Therefore, we conduct a survey of environmental knowledge, attitudes and behaviors every five years. Our latest survey was conducted in the fall of 2004 by the UK Survey Research Center. A copy can be obtained by contacting the KEEC at (502) 564-5937 or by e-mailing jane.eller@ky.gov.

KEEC has numerous other initiatives as well. The message we want to convey is that we are not conducting environmental education in the usual way. Instead, we are looking critically at exactly what we believe we need to do to improve environmental literacy and strategically designing programs that meet those needs.

Kentucky Division of Fossil Fuels and Utility Services

Each year the first \$400,000 received from the state portion of unmined mineral tax is given to the Kentucky Division of Fossil Fuels and Utility Services (formerly the Kentucky Coal Council) for public education of coal-related issues. In FY05, due to lack of a budget, the \$400,000 was transferred in \$100,000 increments every calendar quarter.

Kentucky Heritage Land Conservation Fund

Board Members

The 12-member board was established by the Kentucky General Assembly in 1994. Five members are appointed from state government agencies - one each from the Department for Natural Resources, the Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, the Department of Parks, the Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission and the Environmental Education Council. Seven members of the board are private citizens selected by the governor from nominations by conservation groups, the Kentucky Academy of Science, agricultural interests and natural resources industries. Dr. William H. Martin, Eastern Kentucky University, has been appointed by the governor to serve as chair of the board.

Citizen members receive no pay for attending quarterly board meetings and serving on committees of the board. Committees review applications and visit project sites, review and monitor site stewardship and provide advice and recommendations on issues coming before the board. Board members for the 2004-05 fiscal year were:

Susan Bush
Commissioner, Department for Natural Resources
663 Teton Trail
Frankfort, KY 40601
(502)564-2184
Ex Officio

C. Thomas Bennett
Dr. Jon Gasset
Commissioner, Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources
#1 Game Farm Road
Frankfort, KY 40601
(502)564-3400
Ex Officio

George Ward
Commissioner, Department of Parks
10th Floor, Capital Plaza Tower
Frankfort, KY 40601
(502)564-2172
Ex Officio

Don Dott
Director, Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission
801 Schenkel Lane
Frankfort, KY 40601
(502)573-2886
Ex Officio

W. Horace Brown
Chair, Environmental Education Council
527½ Main Street
Shelbyville, KY 40065
(502)633-4754
Ex Officio

Franklin D. Fitzpatrick
Kentucky Chapter of the Nature Conservancy
P.O. Box 326
Prestonsburg, KY 41653
(606)886-1312

Dr. William H. Martin, Chair
Kentucky Academy of Science
Case Annex 105
Eastern Kentucky University
Richmond, KY 40475
(859)622-1476

Karolyn Hayden, Treasurer
Agricultural organizations representative
2138 Hayden School Road
Cecilia, KY 42724
(270)862-3247

G. William Little
Environmental organizations representative
306 Hoover Hill Road
Hartford, KY 42347
(270)298-4237

Dr. Richard Kessler
Kentucky Academy of Science
306 Cambridge Way
Campbellsville, KY 42718
(270)932-2220

Dr. Paul M. Sheets
League of Kentucky Sportsmen
962 Broadway Plaza
Paintsville, KY 41240
(606)789-4631

Carl L. Wedekind, Jr., Vice-Chair
Expertise in natural resources land acquisition
1807 Ballard Mill Lane
Louisville, KY 40207
(502)896-1492

The Kentucky Heritage Land Conservation Fund Board is staffed by the Department for Natural Resources. Comments regarding this report should be addressed to:

Kentucky Heritage Land Conservation Fund Board
375 Versailles Road
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
Phone: (502) 573-3080 Fax: (502) 573-1692
www.heritageland.ky.gov



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Cover photograph: Knobby Rock, Blanton Forest, Harlan County. Photo by Joe Dietz.